

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AGR-20 RSC-01 AID-20 EB-11 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11

EUR-25 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 SWF-02 L-03 SS-20

NSC-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DRC-01 /182 W

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R 021555Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4592

INFO US MISSION USUN 2025

US MISSION GENEVA 2226

UNCLAS ROME 6037

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, FAO, UN

SUBJECT: WFP/IGC 25TH SESSION

1. AS PROMISED US DEL, FOLLOWING COMMENTS DEALING PRIMARILY WITH U.S. STATEMENTS MAY BE USEFUL PREPARING REPORT ON ITEMS 7-9-10-11. PASS MEAD/KEEFER USDA.

2. ITEM 7 INVOLVED TWO MAIN ISSUES (A) DISPOSITION OF PROJECT PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO IGC FOR INFORMATION TO EXPEDITE CLEARANCE BY CORRESPONDENCE OR SUCH OTHER ACTION AS THE COMMITTEE MIGHT DETERMINE; (B) PRINCIPLE OF APPLICATION OF PRIORITIES WITHIN THE LEAST DEVELOPED, WHICH IN TURN ARE THE NUMBER ONE GENERAL PRIORITY.

3. ON (A) THRUST OF US POSITION TO EMPHASIZE PRINCIPLES OF ADEQUATE WARNING (PRIOR CIRCULATION DOCUMENTS), FIXED AGENDA AND COMMODITY AVAILABILITY DETERMINATION. AT FIRST SESSION US PROPOSED THIS CONCLUSION WHICH GENERALLY ACCEPTED BUT WHEN SUBJECT REOPENED WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON U.S. CONCURRED IN APPROVAL, SUBJECT TO COMMODITY AVAILABILITY, THE THREE PROJECTS (2 LESOTHO 1 PAKISTAN) ON WHICH TIME RUNNING OUT, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PRINCIPLES, AND ACTION NOT BO BE CONSIDERED A PRECEDENT. OFFERED

EXPEDITIOUS CONSIDERATION BY CORRESPONDENCE OF BALANCE.

4. ON (B) AQUINO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF OPENING PROVIDED BY SOME CRITICISM (SPECIFICALLY FRANCE CANADA AND US) IN FIRST SESSION OF WHAT APPEARED TO BE DIFFUSED AND SOME LESS THAN HIGH PRIORITY ACTIVITIES IN SOME PROJECT PROPOSALS (E.G. DAHOMEY MULTI-PURPOSE PROJECT) TO ASK FOR DISCUSSION WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON AND CLARIFICATION ON WHAT MIGHT BE CALLED VERTICAL PRIORITIES IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED IN ADDITION TO HORIZONTAL PRIORITIES WHICH PLACE LEAST DEVELOPED AT TOP OF LIST. US STATEMENT EMPHASIZED USE OF PRIORITIES AS A CONVENIENT TOOL FOR MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT, RECOGNIZED THAT WE MAY NOT ALWAYS BE ABLE TO DO IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED WHAT WE'D LIKE TO DO AND THIS REQUIRED FLEXIBILITY, EXERCISE OF COMMON SENSE AND GOOD JUDGEMENT; I.E. WE RECOGNIZE THAT A RIGID APPLICATION OF THE VERTICAL PRIORITIES IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED IS NOT FEASIBLE. (NOTE THIS IS ABOUT WHERE THE ISSUE CAME OUT ALTHOUGH MOST DELEGATES WERE EVEN MORE LENIENT. CANADA SUGGESTED FIRST CONCERN IS REASONABLE CHANCE OF SUCCESS WHICH WAS SENSE OF DRAFT REPORT BUT US SUGGESTED DELETION, ARGUED AGAINST ANY DEFINITION AND FINAL WORDING IS "EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ADOPT A FLEXIBLE AND PRAGMATIC APPROACH.")

5. ITEM 9 STATEMENT DESIGNED (A) TO SUPPORT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN PROPER EXERCISE OF HIS DELEGATED AUTHORITY WITH NO OBJECTION TO THE PROJECTS APPROVED (SETTING WAS CRITICISM APPROVAL CHILE PROJECTS DOVERED SEPTEL, AGUINO'S STRONG REACTION AND FIRM SUPPORT FIRST VOICED BY DENMARK); (B) TO TRY TO LIMIT DISCUSSION TO ISSUES GERMANE TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WHICH NOT CONSTITUTED FOR PURPOSE CARRYING OUT POLITICAL DEBATE I.E. TO EXPEDITE HANDLING OF THE AGENDA.

6. ITEM 10 US TOOK LEAD IN COMMENTING ON IMPROVEMENT DOCUMENTATION, APPRECIATION ATTEMPTS TO ISSUE CONSIDERABLY IN ADVANCE OF MEETING BUT REGRET THAT DOOD INTENTIONS NOT YET SUFFICIENTLY REFLECTED IN TIMELINESS DOCUMENTS, AND APPRECIATION FOR IMPROVED ORGANIZATION OF MATERIALS BY MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE FIELDS. HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT GROUP USED AS EXAMPLE WHERE OVERESTIMATION REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER CAUSES COMMODITY LOSSES WARRANTED CLOSE ATTENTION. BURUNDI 560 AN EXAMPLE WHERE LOSSES UNREASONABLY HIGH PROBABLY WARRANTING THOROUGH INTERIM EVALUATION EVEN RECOGNIZING UNCLASSIFIED

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MOST LOSSES OCCURRED PRIOR DELIVERY IN BURUNDI. PAKISTAN 505 USED AS EXAMPLE CORRECTING DEFICIENCIES IN PROJECT PLANNING AND JAMAICA 707 AS REFLECTING CHANGES MADE AS RESULT EXPERIENCE BUT PROBABLY WARRANTING FURTHER ADJUSTMENTS.

7. ITEM 11 COMMENTS EXPANSION ITEM 10: DELAYS STILL TROUBLESOME BUT EFFORTS IMPROVE APPRECIATED; ORGANIZATION OF DOCUMENTS IS AN IMPROVEMENT; COVERING PAPER IS A REAL HELP AND U.S. WOULD

STRONGLY SUPPORT THE IDEA OF SUBJECT MATTER (FIELD OF ACTIVITY)
"POSITION PAPERS" SUGGESTED IN VALUATION DOCUMENT PREPARED FOR
ITEM 12 ON WHICH DISCUSSION UNFORTUNATELY BUT NECESSARILY
DEFERRED TO NEXT SESSION. NUMBER OF INSTANCES WHERE EVALUATION
WAS CONTRIBUTING TO IMPROVED PROJECT PLANNING, DESIGN, IMPL-
MENTATION, GENERAL MANAGERIAL IMPROVEMENT. THIS IS ITS REAL VALUE
AND MORE ATTENTION NEEDS BE GIVEN CONSTANTLY TO THE INTERRELA-
TIONSHPIS. COMMODITY LOSSES FROM VARIETY OF CAUSES BEING
IDENTIFIED - WHEN MIGHT WE EXPECT THE SPECIAL PAPER ON THIS
SUBJECT REQUESTED AT PREVIOUS IGC BY CANADA? (THE ANSWER
WAS 26TH SESSION).VOLPE

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